

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 7023

January 21, 2021

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes a local education agency (LEA) to close school in the 2020-21 school year if it is in the best interest of the LEA's students, teachers, and staff to protect them from COVID-19 and make up any lost time due to such closure in the following summer. Requires an LEA to report any closure's beginning and end date to the Department of Education (DOE) within five business days of the closure.

Prohibits the state from requiring certain teachers to be evaluated using an alternate growth model or growth portfolio model for the 2020-21 school year. Prohibits the use of student performance and growth data from 2020-21 TCAP tests to assign letter grades to schools, identify a school as a priority school, or assign a school to the Achievement School District (ASD). Requires the Commissioner of DOE to waive the requirement for 180 days of school instruction for 2020-2021 school year. Prohibits the deprivation of state funds from an LEA due to the suspension of school operations during the 2020-2021 school year.

Requires DOE to seek a waiver from the United States Department of Education, or seek to amend Tennessee's Every Student Succeeds Act as necessary. Requires the State Board of Education (SBE) revise the high school graduation requirements for the 2020-2021 school year. Requires SBE to provide resources and opportunities for certain high school students who were enrolled in dual credit or dual enrollment courses during the 2020-2021 school year.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- No change in Basic Education Program funding.
- Adjusting the required use of various criteria used to determine teacher evaluations, student and school letter grades, identify a school as a priority school, and assign schools to the ASD, as required by the proposed legislation, will have no significant impact on DOE or LEAs.
- DOE, SBE, and LEAs will be able to amend their policies in accordance with the provisions of this legislation during the normal course of business; therefore, any fiscal impact is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bojan Savic". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bojan Savic, Interim Executive Director

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